

Official Newsletter of the Miniwanca Younger Boys and Pre-Senior Camps

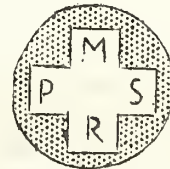
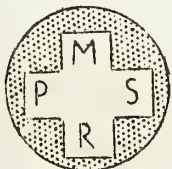
THE AMERICAN YOUTH FOUNDATION, 3930 Lindell Boulevard, St. Louis, Mo.

APRIL

1944

"DON'T
WAIT
TO BE
A
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BE A
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"MY
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GREETINGS!

Can you believe it -- just two months until camp opens! Nine months have disappeared in a hurry, and soon the dead silence of YB Camp will be turned into a pandemonium of yells, shouts, and hilarity.

During my visits to different states this winter I found campers full of enthusiasm about returning to camp. Seventy-five of last year's campers are returning for this summer. You will have the fun of being with many of the friends you made last season. The fact that YB is full to capacity three months before camp opens is indicative of its popularity.

I hope every boy will come to Miniwanca with a desire to give and to get the very best. In many cases parents are sacrificing so you can have a camping experience. With many of our best young men dying on the battlefronts, we back at home must appreciate our privileges and take camp seriously. Let's so discipline ourselves that we participate only in constructive endeavors. Camp can make a definite contribution toward building into your life those qualities and ideals which will make you a stronger and more useful citizen in the years which lie ahead. Camp can help us to be more altruistic and unselfish -- the more we do for others, the more we grow ourselves.

Everywhere today manpower is being mobilized. Let's mobilize the boy power at Miniwanca this summer to do everything possible to conserve, to cooperate, to create, and to produce the best results possible. Leaders and campers working together in all camp relationships should give us a glorious summer. It is your camp. Put your best into it.

It will be great to welcome each one of you on June 21. Yours for our best camp,

T. AUBREY "Shorty" MORSE, Director

YB CAMP FULL TO CAPACITY

On March 20, the Younger Boys Camp reached its capacity enrolment of 135 boys -- three months before camp opens. This has never happened before in the history of Boys Camp. As early as last November, boys started signing up for the 1944 season. Several camp promotion trips planned for this spring were cancelled because of the many early registrations. Quite a number of last-year campers were too late in sending in their registrations, and are now on the Waiting List.

WAITING LIST

We have about twenty boys already on the Waiting List. If we have any cancellations, these boys will be registered according to their places on the list, and will be notified at once. If we had any more beds, tents, and leaders, we would like to take everybody on the Waiting List. We will do the best we can for them.

19 STATES REPRESENTED

Boys from 19 states will be at Miniwanca during Younger Boys Camp. They are registered from Arkansas, Missouri, Ohio, West Virginia, Maryland, Michigan, Illinois, New Jersey, Indiana, Wisconsin, Iowa, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Texas, New York, South Carolina, Alabama, California, and Massachusetts.

Here's GREETINGS from ROGER ALLEN, Director Darer Unit:

A few weeks ago, I was happy to attend the reunion of the Chicago - Oak Park campers. As Shorty presented the camp movies, I was reminded of the many activities we had last year. We had a great time together, didn't we? All of you former campers know what I mean. Some of you have written to me about your experiences at Miniwanca. It's just those experiences of clean living, helpful cooperation, and wholesome recreation that are necessary if we are to make any contribution to the building of a better world. Just as members of our families and those of friends are serving in the armed forces of our country, so we, too, have a mighty important job on the home front. We must hold high ideals, keep our noble ambitions, and arouse enthusiasm for a better day.

I am happy to serve again this summer as the Director of the Darer Unit. Right now I'm working on some new ideas, and I'm sure we'll have even a greater time together than last year. That's a promise!

I hope to see many new faces at Miniwanca. The challenge of new friendships is one of the factors which has drawn me to camp during the past three years. I assure all of you new campers that your camp experience will be one of the most interesting and worthwhile experiences of your life. I'll be looking for all of you on June 21.

And PAUL BAUER, Director Doer Unit, greets you, too:

With summer fast approaching, I cannot help but think of Camp Miniwanca and all the grand times and wonderful experiences we boys had together. I am anticipating spending another summer with my friends and meeting new comrades.

The days of camping at Miniwanca were so filled with activities that it is hard for me to say which ones I enjoyed the most. The night we had the Miniwanca Square Gardens with our Guest Celebrities (alias fellow campers) will be one I will never forget. I recall the fun we had taking the seven-mile hike along the beach to the Lighthouse, and the grand time we had down at the waterfront. How I enjoyed the sailboat race when the campers were trying to gain points for their tribes!

All of this was a great deal of fun and are the things that we will always remember, but I do not think that any of us will ever forget the inspirational talks we heard up on Vesper Dune as we watched the sun with all its radiant colors disappear into Lake Michigan. These talks were just a few things we had at Miniwanca that help to better everyone of us in some little way. I do not think that any of us could say at the close of camp that the "fourfold way of life" taught us at Miniwanca did not help us in some way, either physically, socially, mentally, or religiously.

Here's hoping we will have a still better camping period this summer. I will be looking forward to seeing all of you at the opening of the camping season.

FRED NOLTING, Director Pre-Senior Unit, writes you about "The Land of My Dreams":

"There's a long, long trail a winding into the land of my dreams." But that trail is a well-known one and I will travel it again this summer. It is the trail that leads to camp, the land of my dreams and yours. It is at camp we learn this great art of living and the fun in the out-of-doors. Camp is the enchanted isle where we meet fellows we can't forget. It is the source of pleasant and rich memories which

we re-live before evening fires in winter. It is the creator of friendships that endure for a lifetime. It is all that gives life the tone and dignity and zest of meaningfulness.

For who can forget the vesper inspirations. . .the fellow who was your buddy this past summer. . .or the fellow you outwardly kidded but inwardly respected and loved, called your leader? Remember sleeping under the winking light of Sable? Recall the tough games on Baldy? Feel that warm glow rising within that says to you, "It's camp time!" It's the time for you to leave care behind, to bring fun to the fore, to bring out your best, for at camp we want nothing less.

Yes, the land of my dreams is Camp Land. The tribes of good men and true live there: Men who live the fourfold way; men who have gone into the world and said, "The Jesus way of life is the way of life for me." And so, with summer well on its way, I pause in my work and greet you, both old camper and new camper. You will have rich experiences; set your hopes high, for they will be filled. Soon we will meet. Soon we will live our dreams. Soon we will be in the land of the Founder Fellowship.

All of us are explorers. We will gather around the fire to form the tribes and fill the teepees of Miniwanca. Trim your packs. Fill your spirits with anticipation. It's getting-ready time now. Soon. . .the time of departure. . .to the land of OUR dreams - Miniwanca.

FROM ANOTHER LEADER, JACK BODINE

An issue of "The Trail" would not be complete without some sort of greeting from the leaders. We're that bunch that had such a grand time in the free-for-all at the Miniwanca Square Garden festival last year. The Leaders' Frolic and Backwards Day are a couple more red-letter days in our memories of last summer's camp, and we're anxiously awaiting them again this year. As usual, we will be on hand to trim the campers in the annual Fourth of July Camper-Leader Ball Game.

Seriously though, we are looking forward to this summer's camp, and we shall be glad to see you all. We know that YB campers this year will be as swell a bunch as those we've boasted of in years past. Camp this year promises to be bigger and better than ever, and we'll all be on hand to help you plan a lot of fun in the fourfold way. So long; see you in June!!!

CONCRETE BOAT DOCKS

As we announced in our last issue we planned to have concrete docks for our boats this summer. Just today we have word that some of the material is on the way to Stony Lake. I know you will be thrilled to see this new improvement on the waterfront. It will include concrete cat-walks, also. Miniwanca has a wonderful waterfront, with a concrete and steel diving tower, swimming docks, canoes, kayaks, row boats, sail boats, and aqua boards.

WAR TIME PROJECTS

Again this summer our campers will do their part in the war effort by working on our camp farm, raising chickens and pigs, and picking cherries during the cherry season. Cherry picking will be limited to the Pre-Senior and Doer units, with parents' consent. A blank will be mailed later, and any campers interested in picking cherries must have a blank filled out and signed by parents.

* * * * * LAUNDRY ... LAUNDRY ... LAUNDRY * * * * *

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* We urge parents to get a laundry mailing case and plan to have laundry
* mailed home - washed - and returned to camp. If parents are to be away
* from home, or for some other reason find it impossible to have laundry
* sent home, we may be able to make some other arrangements. The war
* makes it impossible to get the customary laundry service in Muskegon.
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SNEAK-BOX

A new type of sailboat will be added to our sailing fleet this summer -- a "Sneak-Box", cat rigged. It is the type used quite a lot on Barnegat Bay, New Jersey, and was built there.

1943 LEADERS IN SERVICE

JOE ARNOLD - Sec. 52-M, U.S. Maritime Service Training Station, Avalon, Calif.
PAUL GIVENS - Co. 1510, U.S.N.T.S., Great Lakes, Illinois
DICK HAMLIN - U.S. Naval Hospital Staff, San Diego 34, Calif.
BILLY HARRIS - U.S. Navy, Norfolk, Virginia
HOWARD HARTMAN - U.S.N.R., Graduate House #617, M.I.T., Cambridge 39, Mass.
JACK LOTHAMER - U.S. Navy, De Pauw Univ., Greencastle, Indiana
BILL PHILLIPS - U.S. Marines, Camp Elliott, San Diego, Calif.
JIM RICHARDS - 307th A.A.F.C.T.D., Sqdn. C, Bks #8, Univ. of Mo., Columbia, Mo.

NEW CAMPERS, WELCOME TO MINIWANCA!

A real hearty Miniwanca welcome is extended to: DAVID BAIN, Pittsburgh -- FORD and JEBSON BAKER, Ladue, Mo. -- JAMES BALLENTINE, Charleston, W. Va. -- GEORGE BIGGAR, Cincinnati -- DONALD BOLON, Columbus, O. -- CHARLES BRINER, St. Louis -- ARCHIE CHURCH, Maysville, Ky. -- CLAYTON CONNELLY, Webster Groves, Mo. -- WILLIAM CUMMINGS, Granville, O. -- BILLY COOK, Evanston, Ill. -- TED DAVIDSON, Evanston, Ill. -- TEDDY DAY, University City, Mo. -- DAVID DENSTAD, Malden, Mass. -- CHARLES DOWNS, Pana, Ill. -- RICHARD DUTTON, University City, Mo. -- JIMMY EIPPER, Moline, Ill. -- JAMES EVANS, Kirkwood, Mo. -- CHARLES GRANT, Akron, O. -- JAMES GREENE, St. Louis, Mo. -- JAMES GROUT, Dayton, O. -- ROBERT HARRIS (Bill's brother), University City, Mo. -- DONALD HAYS (Gordon's brother), University City, Mo. -- JOHN HARWELL, Kenilworth, Ill. -- BERNARD HEGGEMAN Jr., Normandy, Mo. -- CLISSOLD HILL, Oak Park, Ill. -- STANLEY HOFFMAN, University City, Mo. -- JAMES HOWERTON, University City, Mo. -- KARL JOHNSON (Lamar & Clarence's brother), Columbia, Mo. -- CHARLES KOIVUN, Moline, Ill. -- RICHARD LEES, University City, Mo. -- ROBERT LUTZ, Decatur, Ill. -- CHARLES MAHN, Kirkwood, Mo. -- PAUL MELOY, Louisville, Ky. -- JAY METCALFE, Webster Groves, Mo. -- JAMES MILLER, McComb, O. -- WILLIAM MOORE, Newark, O. -- BOBBY MORSE (William's brother), Webster Groves, Mo. -- JOHN NELSON, University City, Mo. -- CHARLES NICHOLS Anderson, Ind. -- JAMES NORENBURG, Glen Ellyn, Ill. -- TED PARKER, Grand Rapids, Mich. -- MARK PIPER, Flint, Mich. -- JIMMY PORTER, Glendale, Mo. -- ROBERT RICHART, Hannibal, Mo. -- GUSTAV ROESS, Oil City, Pa. -- ALLAN SCHLATTER, Webster Groves, Mo. -- JERRY STEDING, Champaign, Ill. -- EUGENE STEVENS, Evanston, Ill. -- BILLY STEVENSON, Alexis, Ill. -- WILLIAM STEPHENSON, St. Louis -- BOB STONER, Columbus, O. -- MEL-CHOIR WAGNER Jr., Clayton, Mo. -- ALAN WETZEL, St. Louis -- JACKIE WILLIAMS, Granville, O. -- BOB WOODS, Webster Groves, Mo. -- DONALD WYLIE, Detroit, Mich.

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CAMP MINIWANCA FOR BOYS
JUNE 21 - JULY 26, 1944